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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1447
RUEHCR/AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO 0459
RUFHTH/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 0466
RUESON/AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN 0402
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 4728
RUEOEHA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS//SCJ2//
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E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PREL, PGDV, NS, BR
SUBJECT: SURINAME - NOTES FROM DUTCH EMBASSY

1. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ENTIRE TEXT.
2. THE DUTCH EMBASSY HAS AN ONGOING DIALOGUE WITH BRAZILIAN MFA OFFICIALS IN ORDER TO GET INFORMATION AND HOPEFULLY TO INFLUENCE THE GOB TO VIEW EVENTS IN SURINAME MORE AS THE DUTCH SEE THEM.

3. BRAZILIAN CONCERNS INCREASING....

ON DECEMBER 3 THE DUTCH CHARGE TOLD POLITICAL COUNSELOR THAT HIS INTERLOCUTOR IN THE MFA AGREES FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT THE SITUATION IN SURINAME IS DETERIORATING. BOUTERSE IS NOT OUT YET, BUT THINGS ARE MOVING MORE SWIFTLY. THE MFA IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE PACE OF EVENTS AND TELEPHONES THE BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR IN PARAMARIBO EVERY DAY AT NOON TO CHECK ON THE SITUATION.

4. BUT BOUTERSE IS NOT ABOUT TO DEPART FOR BELEM.

THE DUTCH CHARGE ASKED THE MFA ABOUT RUMORS THAT BOUTERSE HAD A HOUSE IN BELEM AS INSURANCE IN CASE OF EXILE. THE MFA OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SURINAME ACKNOWLEDGED THAT BOUTERSE HAD A HOUSE IN BELEM BUT SAID IT WAS SMALL AND CLEARLY USED FOR MAINTAINING A MISTRESS ONLY. IN FACT, MANY SURINAMESE HAVE SUCH ARRANGEMENTS IN BELEM WHICH IS SAID TO KEEP BRAZILIAN INTELLIGENCE AGENTS BUSY.

5. NO ARMS SALES.

THE MFA ASSURED THE DUTCH HERE THAT NO BRAZILIAN ARMS HAVE BEEN SOLD TO BOUTERSE FOR AT LEAST 18 MONTHS (SPARE PARTS AND AMMO APPARENTLY HAVE BEEN SOLD, HOWEVER). THE ARMS SOLD TO SURINAME IN THE PAST WERE IN EFFECT PART OF A DEAL TO KEEP THE CUBANS OUT OF SURINAME. THE ARMS WERE CUT OFF, ACCORDING TO THE MFA, FOLLOWING DOMESTIC BRAZILIAN

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OPPOSITION TO THEIR SALE. AT THIS POINT FOOD
COULD BE SENT TO THE GOS BUT NOT MUCH ELSE.

6. IN SUM, ACCORDING TO THE DUTCH, WHO FEAR
GREATER VIOLENCE AND EVEN ETHNIC BLOOD BATH, THE
BRAZILIANS SHOW INCREASING AWARENESS THAT THE END
FOR BOUTERSE COULD BE APPROACHING BUT CONTINUE TO
HOPE FOR PEACEFUL TRANSITION WHICH WILL NOT
INVOLVE BRAZIL OR THREATEN ITS INTERESTS.

SHLAUDEMAN

END OF MESSAGE

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